<u>DECLARATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK BETTYE THOMAS</u> REGARDING EXPRESS MAIL PACKAGE BEARING LABEL NO. EV313253219US

- I, Bettye Thomas, declare as follows:
- 1. I am employed by the United States Postal Service. I am an administrative clerk in an Express Mail Office, located at 7001 S.Central Ave, Room 335, Los Angeles, CA 90052-9601, and have held that position at least since Saturday, July 26, 2003.
- As a requirement of my position with the United States Postal Service in its Los-Angeles Express Mail Office, I have personal knowledge of the general Express Mail routing processes and procedures in the Los Angeles area.
- A true and correct copy of Express Mail Label No. EV313253219US is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 4. As indicated on the Express Mail Label No. EV313253219US, the package was scanned in at a processing facility located in the zip code 90080 at 12:30 a.m. on July 26, 2003.
- 5. The only processing facility in zip code 90080 is located at Worldway Processing Center ("Worldway"). Worldway is a postal processing facility, and does not receive packages directly from customers.
- 6. Packages received and processed at Worldway are all delivered to Worldway from other postal locations. The Express Mail Label No. EV313253219US states that it was "checked in" at 12:30 a.m. on July 26th at Worldway. Before a package is "checked in," the package must be retrieved from another postal location, loaded onto a vehicle, transported to Worldway, unloaded from the vehicle, delivered to a receiving area within Worldway, processed with other packages that were unloaded from the vehicle, and finally scanned in by a postal worker at Worldway.
- 7. Based on the locations of the other postal locations from which express mail is processed by Worldway, and based on the several steps that must take place between the time a customer drops off a package and it is checked in, it would take more than 30 minutes for any package that a customer drops off at any of these locations to be checked in at Worldway after the drop off. Thus, the 12:30 A.M. check in time that is stamped on the Express Mail Label No.

EV313253219US means that this package had to have been delivered by the customer to a postal facility during the previous day.

I hereby declare that all statements made in this declaration of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. These statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed this gtd day of June 2004, at Los Angeles, California.

Print Name: Bettye Thomas United States Postal Service